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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/960,296	09/24/2001	Kenji Maruyama	011267	4754

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EXAMINER

SCHILLINGER, LAURA M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2813

DATE MAILED: 10/23/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/960,296

Applicant(s)

MARUYAMA ET AL. ✓

Examiner

Laura M Schillinger

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears n th cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 July 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17-19 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fukushima et al ('301).

In reference to claim 1, Fukushima teaches a device comprising:

A first electrode (Fig.24 (242));

A ferroelectric film (Fig.24 (243));

A second electrode (Fig.24 (244));

An intermediate layer of perovskite crystal formed at the boundary between the first electrode, the ferroelectric film and the second electrode (Abs., lines: 1-5).

In reference to claim 2, Fukushima teaches wherein the perovskite is : BaTiO₃ (Col.28, lines: 13-16).

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In reference to claim 3, Fukushima teaches wherein the intermediate layer further comprises: Sr
(Col.28, lines: 13-16)

In reference to claim 4, Fukushima teaches wherein the first electrode or second electrode is
metal (Col.17, lines: 35-45).

In reference to claim 5, Fukushima teaches wherein the first electrode or second is metal (Col.17,
lines: 35-45).

In reference to claim 6, Fukushima teaches wherein the first or second electrode is metal (Col.17,
lines: 35-45).

In reference to claim 7, Fukushima teaches wherein the metal is Ni (Col.17, lines: 35-45).

In reference to claim 8, Fukushima teaches wherein the metal is Ni (Col.17, lines: 35-45).

In reference to claim 9, Fukushima teaches wherein the metal is Ni (Col.17, lines: 35-45).

In reference to claim 10, Fukushima teaches wherein the ferroelectric material is Pb based
(Col.2, lines: 5-10).

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In reference to claim 11, Fukushima teaches wherein the ferroelectric material is PZT (Col.2, lines: 5-10).

In reference to claim 12, Fukushima teaches wherein the PZT film further contains Ca (Col.3, lines: 50-65 see also Col.19, lines: 30-35).

In reference to claim 13, Fukushima teaches wherein the ferroelectric material is BST (Col.19, lines: 15-20).

In reference to claim 14, Fukushima teaches wherein the ferroelectric has Bi (Col.4, lines: 1-10, 3A-7A consists of Bi).

In reference to claim 15, Fukushima teaches wherein the ferroelectric has SrBiTaO (Col.4, lines: 1-30).

In reference to claim 16, Fukushima teaches a device comprising:

A first electrode (Fig.24 (242));

A ferroelectric film (Fig.24 (243));

A second electrode (Fig.24 (244));

A transistor (Fig.22B (234 and 242);

An intermediate layer of perovskite crystal formed at the boundary between the first electrode, the ferroelectric film and the second electrode (Abs., lines: 1-5).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 8/2/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant should be reminded that "the name of the game is the claim." *In re Hiniker Co.*, 150 F.3d 1362, 1369, 47 USPQ2d 1523 (Fed. Cir. 1998). Applicant attempts to distinguish his claimed invention over Fukushima et al by arguing several points:

- 1) that the intermediate perovskite structure of Applicant's invention is separate and distinct (and Fukushima's is not)
- 2) that the purpose of Applicant's invention is to have the perovskite crystal structure formed over a metal electrode in order to preserve good crystal structure and prevent diffusion
- 3) Fukushima does not teach or suggest using a base metal as a material of an electrode
- 4) in Fukushima, in a case where base metal is used as the material, oxygen in the ferroelectric film is diffused into the electrode and the electrode is oxidized and water from the outside is entered into the ferroelectric film thus preventing good crystal structure

Argument one is not persuasive, because "the name of the game is the claim." *In re Hiniker Co.*, 150 F.3d 1362, 1369, 47 USPQ2d 1523 (Fed. Cir. 1998), applicant should note that even if the Examiner were to concede that Fukushima does not teach a separate and distinct layer (which she does not), Applicant does not claim a separate and distinct structure. Further, Applicant should note that this argument is not persuasive, even if claimed, because the perovskite dielectric layer is a separate and distinct layer from the conductive oxide electrodes, hence the distinction between layers (242,243, and 244).

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Argument 2 is not persuasive because “the name of the game is the claim.” *In re Hiniker Co.*, 150 F.3d 1362, 1369, 47 USPQ2d 1523 (Fed. Cir. 1998), applicant’s claim language is silent as to “the purpose of Applicant’s specification which is having the perovskite crystal structure formed over a metal electrode in order to preserve good crystal structure and prevent diffusion. The Examiner has not looked for such disclosure within Fukushima and will not until such a search is required based on corresponding claim language.

Argument 3 is unpersuasive because Fukushima does teach forming the electrode from a metal- See col.17, lines: 35- 45 as cited previously by the Examiner, which explicitly teaches using metals, such as Ni and Ti to form electrodes.

Lastly, Argument 4 is not persuasive because “the name of the game is the claim.” *In re Hiniker Co.*, 150 F.3d 1362, 1369, 47 USPQ2d 1523 (Fed. Cir. 1998), applicant’s claim language is silent as to “oxygen in the ferroelectric film is diffused into the electrode and the electrode is oxidized and water from the outside is entered into the ferroelectric film thus preventing good crystal structure”. Consequently, the Examiner’s rejection is made FINAL.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura M Schillinger whose telephone number is (703) 308-6425. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T, R-F 7:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Whitehead can be reached on (703) 308-4940. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1500.

LMS
October 15, 2002


CARL WHITEHEAD, JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800